

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA**

**1. PHOENIX YOUNGBLOOD,  
2. KHRYSTAL POLLARD and  
3. CHRISTOPHER DRAKE on behalf of  
themselves and all persons similarly  
situated,**

**Plaintiffs,**

**v.**

**1. MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS, LLC, a  
limited liability company, d/b/a MVP  
EVENT STAFFING, and  
2. DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES  
TRAVEL HOSPITALITY SERVICES,  
INC., a foreign corporation,**

**DEFENDANTS.**

**Case No. 4:22-cv-00315-CVE-SH**

**DEFENDANT’S NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1441, and 1446, Defendant Delaware North Companies Travel Hospitality Services, Inc., in the above-styled action, hereby removes this action from the District Court of Tulsa County to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. In support of this removal, Defendant states as follows:

**TIMELINESS OF REMOVAL**

1. On June 21, 2022, Plaintiffs Phoenix Youngblood, Khrystal Pollard and Christopher Drake (“Plaintiffs”), filed their Petition in this matter in the District Court of Tulsa County, styled as *Phoenix Youngblood, et al., v. MVP Event Productions, LLC*, Case No. CJ-2022-01887 (the “State Court Action”).

2. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), and LCvR 81.2, copies of all documents received by Defendants in the State Court Action, as well as a copy of the docket sheet in the State Court Action, are attached hereto as Exhibits “1” through “6” on the Index of State Court Documents.

3. Defendant was served with a summons and copy of the Petition on June 21, 2022.

4. Defendant is timely in filing this Notice of Removal within 30 days after service of process. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).

5. All Defendants consent to this removal.

### **VENUE**

6. Venue is proper in this Court because it is the “district and division embracing the place where such action is pending.” 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a); *see also* 28 U.S.C. § 116(a) (identifying Oklahoma counties located within the Northern District).

### **ORIGINAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL JURISDICTION**

7. Plaintiffs filed their Petition seeking to recover damages under 29 U.S.C. § 203, *et seq.* (“Fair Labor Standards Act” or “FLSA”) and undisclosed Oklahoma “state wage laws”.

8. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1441, this Court has original jurisdiction over Plaintiffs’ FLSA claims, as such claims arise under the laws of the United States.

9. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367, this Court has supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiff’s related state law claim arising under Oklahoma “state wage laws,” which arise from the same core of operative facts as Plaintiffs’ claims arising under federal law.

10. As noted above, copies of all process, pleadings and orders filed or served upon Defendant in the aforementioned State Court Action (as well as a copy of the docket sheet in the State Court Action) are attached hereto as follows:

Exhibit 1: Docket Sheet in State Court Action, pursuant to LCvR 81.2.

Exhibit 2: Petition;

11. All fees required by law in connection with this Notice have been paid by Defendant.

12. No hearings are currently set on Plaintiffs' claims.

13. By virtue of this Notice of Removal, Defendant does not waive its rights to assert any rights, claims, or other motions permitted by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or other applicable rules or laws.

14. Contemporaneously herewith, written notice of this Notice of Removal will be served on all parties to this action, and a copy of this Notice of Removal is being filed with the Court Clerk of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1446, which shall effectuate the removal.

WHEREFORE, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441, Defendant, by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby removes the above-captioned case now pending in the District Court of Tulsa County, State of Oklahoma, to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael J. DePonte

Michael J. DePonte

OBN 35022

JACKSON LEWIS P.C.

500 N Akard Ste 2500

Dallas, Texas 75201

Tel: (214) 520-2400

Fax: (214) 520-2008

E-mail: [michael.deponte@jacksonlewis.com](mailto:michael.deponte@jacksonlewis.com)

**ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT  
DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL  
HOSPITALITY SERVICES, INC.**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on all counsel of record via ECF electronic notification in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

Steven R. Hickman  
OBA #4172  
FRASIER, FRASIER & HICKMAN, LLP  
1700 Southwest Blvd.  
Tulsa, OK 74107  
(918) 584-4724 T  
(918) 583-5637 F  
[frasier@tulsa.com](mailto:frasier@tulsa.com)

**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS**

Melinda S. Matlock  
RHODES HIERONYMUS, PLLC  
1001 NW 63<sup>rd</sup> Ste 280  
Oklahoma City, OK 73116  
(918) 582-1173 T  
(918) 592-3390 F  
[mmatlock@rhodesokla.com](mailto:mmatlock@rhodesokla.com)

**ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT  
MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS, LLC  
dba MVP EVENT STAFFING**

/s/ Michael J. DePonte  
Michael J. DePonte

4887-1987-4857, v. 2

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**IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA**

PHOENIX YOUNGBLOOD, Plaintiff, and KHRYSAL POLLARD, Plaintiff, and CHRISTOPHER DRAKE, Plaintiff, v. MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS LLC, D/B/A MVP EVENT STAFFING, Defendant, and DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL HOSPITALITY SERVICES INC, Defendant.	<b>No. CJ-2022-1887</b> <b>(Civil relief more than \$10,000:</b> <b>FAILURE TO PAY WAGES AND OVERTIME)</b>  Filed: 06/21/2022  Judge: Civil Docket E
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**Parties**

DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL HOSPITALITY SERVICES INC , Defendant  
 DRAKE, CHRISTOPHER , Plaintiff  
 MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS LLC , Defendant  
 POLLARD, KHRYSAL , Plaintiff  
 YOUNGBLOOD, PHOENIX , Plaintiff

**Attorneys****Attorney**

HICKMAN, STEVEN R(Bar # 4172)  
 FRASIER, FRASIER & HICKMAN, LLP  
 1700 SOUTHWEST BLVD.  
 TULSA, OK 74107

**Represented Parties**

YOUNGBLOOD, PHOENIX  
 POLLARD, KHRYSAL  
 DRAKE, CHRISTOPHER

**Events**

Event	Party	Docket	Reporter
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**Issues**

For cases filed before 1/1/2000, ancillary issues may not appear except in the docket.

**Issue # 1.****Party Name:****Defendant:** MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS LLC**Defendant:** DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL  
HOSPITALITY SERVICES INCIssue: FAILURE TO PAY WAGES AND  
OVERTIME (OTHER)

Filed by: YOUNGBLOOD, PHOENIX

Filed Date: 06/21/2022

**Disposition Information:**

Pending.

Pending.

**Issue # 2.**

<b>EXHIBIT</b> <b>1</b>
----------------------------

Issue: FAILURE TO PAY WAGES AND  
OVERTIME (OTHER)

Filed by: POLLARD, KHRISTAL

Filed Date: 06/21/2022

**Party Name:****Defendant:** MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS LLC

Pending.

**Defendant:** DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL  
HOSPITALITY SERVICES INC

Pending.

**Issue # 3.**Issue: FAILURE TO PAY WAGES AND  
OVERTIME (OTHER)

Filed by: DRAKE, CHRISTOPHER

Filed Date: 06/21/2022

**Party Name:****Defendant:** MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS LLC

Pending.





**Defendant:** DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL  
HOSPITALITY SERVICES INC

Pending.

**Docket**

Date	Code	Count	Party	Serial #	Entry Date		
06-21-2022	TEXT	1		119209718	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:100AM	-	\$ 0.00
			CIVIL RELIEF MORE THAN \$10,000 INITIAL FILING.				
06-21-2022	OTHER	-		119209720	Jun 21 2022 8:52:22:077AM	Realized	\$ 0.00
			FAILURE TO PAY WAGES AND OVERTIME				
06-21-2022	DMFE	-		119209721	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized	\$ 7.00
			DISPUTE MEDIATION FEE(\$ 7.00)				
06-21-2022	PFE1	-		119209722	Jun 21 2022 2:37:58:637PM	Realized	\$ 163.00
			PETITION(\$ 163.00)				
			 <a href="#">Document Available (#1052711733)</a>				
06-21-2022	PFE7	-		119209723	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized	\$ 6.00
			LAW LIBRARY FEE(\$ 6.00)				
06-21-2022	OCISR	-		119209724	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized	\$ 25.00
			OKLAHOMA COURT INFORMATION SYSTEM REVOLVING FUND(\$ 25.00)				
06-21-2022	OCJC	-		119209725	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized	\$ 1.55
			OKLAHOMA COUNCIL ON JUDICIAL COMPLAINTS REVOLVING FUND(\$ 1.55)				
06-21-2022	OCASA	-		119209726	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized	\$ 5.00
			OKLAHOMA COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES(\$ 5.00)				
06-21-2022	SSFCHSCPC	-		119209727	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized	\$ 10.00

Date	Code	Count Party	Serial #	Entry Date	
		SHERIFF'S SERVICE FEE FOR COURTHOUSE SECURITY PER BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER(\$ 10.00)			
06-21-2022	CCADMINCSF -		119209728	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized \$ 1.00
		COURT CLERK ADMINISTRATIVE FEE ON COURTHOUSE SECURITY PER BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER(\$ 1.00)			
06-21-2022	CCADMIN0155 -		119209729	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized \$ 0.16
		COURT CLERK ADMINISTRATIVE FEE ON \$1.55 COLLECTION(\$ 0.16)			
06-21-2022	SJFIS -		119209730	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized \$ 0.45
		STATE JUDICIAL REVOLVING FUND - INTERPRETER AND TRANSLATOR SERVICES(\$ 0.45)			
06-21-2022	DCADMIN155 -		119209731	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized \$ 0.23
		DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATIVE FEE ON \$1.55 COLLECTIONS(\$ 0.23)			
06-21-2022	DCADMIN05 -		119209732	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized \$ 0.75
		DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATIVE FEE ON \$5 COLLECTIONS(\$ 0.75)			
06-21-2022	DCADMINCSF -		119209733	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized \$ 1.50
		DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATIVE FEE ON COURTHOUSE SECURITY PER BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER(\$ 1.50)			
06-21-2022	CCRMPF -		119209734	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized \$ 10.00
		COURT CLERK'S RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION FEE(\$ 10.00)			
06-21-2022	CCADMIN04 -		119209735	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:633AM	Realized \$ 0.50
		COURT CLERK ADMINISTRATIVE FEE ON COLLECTIONS(\$ 0.50)			
06-21-2022	LTF -		119209736	Jun 21 2022 8:45:47:133AM	Realized \$ 10.00
		LENGTHY TRIAL FUND(\$ 10.00)			
06-21-2022	SMF -		119209737	Jun 21 2022 8:46:42:427AM	Realized \$ 20.00
		SUMMONS FEE (CLERKS FEE)(\$ 20.00)			
06-21-2022	SMIMA -		119209738	Jun 21 2022 8:45:47:350AM	Realized \$ 0.00
		SUMMONS ISSUED - MAILED BY ATTORNEY			
06-21-2022	TEXT -		119209719	Jun 21 2022 8:45:46:133AM	- \$ 0.00
		OCIS HAS AUTOMATICALLY ASSIGNED JUDGE CIVIL DOCKET E TO THIS CASE.			
06-21-2022	ACCOUNT -		119209779	Jun 21 2022 8:47:27:377AM	- \$ 0.00

Date	Code	Count Party	Serial #	Entry Date		
RECEIPT # 2022-4371541 ON 06/21/2022. PAYOR: FRASIER FRASIER & HICKMAN TOTAL AMOUNT PAID: \$ 262.14. LINE ITEMS: CJ-2022-1887: \$183.00 ON AC01 CLERK FEES. CJ-2022-1887: \$6.00 ON AC23 LAW LIBRARY FEE CIVIL AND CRIMINAL. CJ-2022-1887: \$1.66 ON AC31 COURT CLERK REVOLVING FUND. CJ-2022-1887: \$5.00 ON AC58 OKLAHOMA COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES. CJ-2022-1887: \$1.55 ON AC59 COUNCIL ON JUDICIAL COMPLAINTS REVOLVING FUND. CJ-2022-1887: \$7.00 ON AC64 DISPUTE MEDIATION FEES CIVIL ONLY. CJ-2022-1887: \$0.45 ON AC65 STATE JUDICIAL REVOLVING FUND, INTERPRETER SVCS. CJ-2022-1887: \$2.48 ON AC67 DISTRICT COURT REVOLVING FUND. CJ-2022-1887: \$25.00 ON AC79 OCIS REVOLVING FUND. CJ-2022-1887: \$10.00 ON AC81 LENGTHY TRIAL FUND. CJ-2022-1887: \$10.00 ON AC88 SHERIFF'S SERVICE FEE FOR COURT HOUSE SECURITY. CJ-2022-1887: \$10.00 ON AC89 COURT CLERK'S RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION FEE.						
06-22-2022	NO	-	119234824	Jun 23 2022 10:31:43:343AM	-	\$ 0.00
NOTICE OF FIRST CONSENTS TO JOIN ACTION / CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  <a href="#">Document Available (#1052559125)</a>						
06-23-2022	S	- DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL HOSPITALITY SERVICES INC	119252559	Jun 24 2022 3:29:12:023PM	-	\$ 0.00
PARTY HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY SERVED / DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL HOSPITALITY SERVICE, INC / ON 6-21-22  <a href="#">Document Available (#1052711438)</a>						
06-23-2022	NO	-	119263173	Jun 27 2022 2:30:30:383PM	-	\$ 0.00
NOTICE OF SECOND CONSENTS TO JOIN ACTION / CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  <a href="#">Document Available (#1052711281)</a>						
07-01-2022	S	- MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS LLC	119320207	Jul 5 2022 9:20:20:490AM	-	\$ 0.00
PARTY HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY SERVED. / MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS LLC / 6-29-22  <a href="#">Document Available (#1052559652)</a>						
07-05-2022	NO	-	119333846	Jul 6 2022 10:18:48:560AM	-	\$ 0.00
NOTICE OF THIRD CONSENT TO JOIN ACTION / C TO J / CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  <a href="#">Document Available (#1052559741)</a>						

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TULSA COUNTY  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA, 500 SOUTH DENVER, TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74103

PHOENIX YOUNGBLOOD, KHRYS TAL POLLARD  
and CHRISTOPHER DRAKE, on behalf of themselves  
and all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiff(s)

vs.

MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS, LLC, a limited liability  
company, d/b/a MVP EVENT STAFFING, and  
DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL  
HOSPITALITY SERVICES, INC.

Defendant(s)

DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL  
HOSPITALITY SERVICE, INC.  
c/o Cogency Global, Inc.  
15205 Traditions Lake Parkway  
Edmond, OK 73013

CJ-2022-01887

Attorney(s) for Plaintiff(s) DAMAN CANTRELL

Name Steven R. Hickman, OBA #4172

Address FRASIER, FRASIER & HICKMAN, LLP

1700 Southwest Boulevard

Tulsa, OK 74107

Telephone 918/584-4724

Bryan Smith

Appointed to serve, PSL # 18-30

Authorized by

Steven R. Hickman

You have been sued by the above named plaintiff(s), and you are directed to file a written answer to the attached petition and order in the Court at the above address within twenty (20) days after service of this summons upon you exclusive of the day of service. Within the same time, a copy of your answer must be delivered or mailed to the attorney for the plaintiff. Unless you answer the petition within the time stated, judgment will be rendered against you with costs of the action.

Issued this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2022.

Don Newberry, Court Clerk

By:

Deputy Court Clerk

(Seal)

This summons and order was served on

(date of service)

(Signature of person serving summons)

YOU MAY SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY ON ANY MATTER CONNECTED WITH THIS SUIT OR YOUR ANSWER. SUCH ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED IMMEDIATELY SO THAT AN ANSWER MAY BE FILED WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT STATED IN THIS SUMMONS.

Return ORIGINAL for filing.

EXHIBIT

2

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

PHOENIX YOUNGBLOOD, KHRYS TAL  
POLLARD, and CHRISTOPHER DRAKE,  
on behalf of themselves and all  
persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

MVP EVENT PRODUCTIONS, LLC, a  
limited liability company, d/b/a MVP  
EVENT STAFFING, and DELAWARE  
NORTH COMPANIES TRAVEL  
HOSPITALITY SERVICES, INC., a  
foreign corporation,

Defendants.

DISTRICT COURT  
FILED

JUN 21 2022

DON NEWBERRY, Court Clerk  
STATE OF OKLA. TULSA COUNTY

CJ-2022-01887

Case No.:  
Attorneys' Lien Claimed  
Jury Trial Demanded

DAMAN CANTRELL

PETITION

COME NOW Plaintiffs and for their claims and causes of action against  
Defendants state and allege:

1. Plaintiffs as above named are individuals who performed work for Defendants in the State of Oklahoma.
2. Defendant MVP Event Productions, LLC, is a foreign limited liability company doing business in Oklahoma as MVP Event Staffing, but not licensed to do business in Oklahoma.
3. Defendant Delaware North Companies Travel Hospitality Services, Inc., is a foreign corporation licensed to do business in Oklahoma.
4. Plaintiffs bring this action for their own loss, and also on behalf of all others who consent in writing to join this action.



5. In May, 2022, Plaintiffs, and each of them, were employees of Defendants, working at the 2022 PGA Tournament at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Oklahoma.
6. Plaintiffs variously were not paid regular wages, overtime wages, bonuses, tips and other supplementary gain as promised, or have been paid in part, but not in full.
7. The failure to pay wages as required under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, and state wage laws was intentional to the extent that Defendants are subjected to liability for liquidated damages.
8. Plaintiffs estimate the amount due to each is in the \$1,000 to \$5,000 range.

WHEREFORE, premises considered, Plaintiffs and each of them, as well as those joining the action, pray for judgment against Defendants and each of them in amounts to be determined for each at trial together with liquidated damages, interest, costs, attorneys' fees, and such other and further relief to which they are deemed entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FRASIER, FRASIER & HICKMAN, LLP

By:

  
Steven R. Hickman, OBA #4172  
1700 Southwest Blvd.  
Tulsa, OK 74107  
Phone: (918) 584-4724  
Fax: (918) 583-5637  
E-mail: [frasier@tulsa.com](mailto:frasier@tulsa.com)  
Attorneys for Plaintiffs